

October 3, 1960

Memorandum to File

EXO BIOLOGY PROGRAM

Call █ from Rod Clayton at ORNL. He is very much interested in the Exobiology Program and can plead that he has a special competence in both the physics and biological side which is undoubtedly true. He is now getting \$13,000 and I told him that we would be unable to go above this but might be able to reach it. He is rather concerned about his possible academic status in biophysics and I really should go to talk to Kaplan about that. He stressed that there would be an economic advantage in getting him since it might mitigate the necessity of getting somebody else for the electronic engineering side. On the other hand, it is obvious that a program here would not be a captive one and it might be difficult to keep this oriented in just the way I have in mind. I did make a specific point about this aspect of the direction and I think Rod does appreciate it. I have no idea how he responds to it. We left it that he would send me some biographical material; meanwhile, he is in touch with the University of Michigan for possible position there.

Parker also called back to say that he is tied up with his Air Force Reserve Training and might not be available until February 1. I think it is advisable to encourage him but I indicated it would not be possible to keep the job absolutely open until he returned. I did say, however, that there was a very strong likelihood and that I hoped we may remain in touch with one another.